

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 30-32, 34-40, 42-48 and 50-53 are now present in the application. Claims 33, 41 and 49 have been respectively incorporated into claims 30, 38 and 46 and hereby cancelled. Claims 30, 38 and 46 are independent. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that dependent claims 33 and 41 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter by the Examiner.

By the present amendment, independent claims 30 and 38 have been amended to include allowable subject matter of dependent claims 33 and 41, as discussed hereinbelow.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 46-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claims are directed to a recording medium storing non-functional descriptive material. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 46 is directed to a recording medium for recording digital data using a digital data recorder, comprising a digital data stream divided into stream objects each comprising one or more stream object units and recorded on the recording medium; common information recorded on the recording medium for the stream

objects; and stream time map information recorded in a stream information file of the recording medium, the stream time map information including a time mapping list having time search information for searching the stream objects. The common information and the stream time map information embodied on a recording medium defines a structural and functional interrelationships between the data structure and digital data recorder which permit the data structure's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 are therefore respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 30-32, 34-40, 42-48 and 50-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Saeki et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,078,727 (hereinafter “Saeki”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner’s rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

Without conceding to the propriety of the Examiner’s rejections, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the application, as the Examiner will note, independent claims 30, 38, and 46 have been amend to include the subject matter of dependent claims 33, 41 and 49, which were indicated by the Examiner as including allowable subject matter. In particular, independent claims 30, 38, and 46 have been amend to recite “the time mapping list includes one or more sub time mapping lists, and each of the sub time mapping lists has the time search information for searching the corresponding one of the stream object units”, which is not disclosed in the utilized

reference. Accordingly, it is believed that claims, 30, 38 and 46 and their dependent claims (at least due to their dependency) are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 21, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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